

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 ANKARA 01951 110059Z

64/50

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 CCO-00 NSCE-00 /026 W

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P R 101630Z MAR 75 ZFF-4

FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8312

AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA PRIORITY

INFO AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

S E C R E T ANKARA 1951

EXDIS

SECTO 163

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (P A R A S 2 A N D 3)

FOR AMBASSADOR HUMMEL AND MULCAHY FROM SISCO

EO 11652 GDS

TAGS: OVIP (KISSINGER, HENRY A)

SUBJECT: ETHIOPIA

REF: DAMASCUS 895

1. SECRETARY TOOK UP THE QUESTION OF ETHIOPIA WITH
PRESIDENT ASAD OF SYRIA, URGING A NEGOTIATED SOLUTION.
ASAD SAID HE HAD A "FEELING" THE USG WAS SUPPORTING
THE POSITION OF THE GOVT IN ADDIS WHICH LEAVES NO
BASIS FOR NEGOTIATIONS. THE SECRETARY SAID THIS IS
NOT THE CASE BUT THAT, SINCE THE ENTIRE ETHIOPIAN
ARMY IS EQUIPPED WITH U.S. ARMS, AS A MATTER OF PRINCIPLE
WE CANNOT REFUSE TO SUPPLY A SMALL AMOUNT OF
AMMUNITION TO ADDIS OR ANYONE ELSE WITH U.S. ARMS
WHO IS IN TROUBLE. SEC SAID WE WOULD SEND AMMO, NOT
HOWEVER ARMS AT THIS TIME. MOREOVER, OUR NEW AMBASSADOR,
HAS JUST ARRIVED IN ADDIS WITH INSTRUCTIONS TO BRING
ABOUT NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN ERITREA AND ADDIS.

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2. THE SECRETARY ADDED THAT THE USG CAN ACCEPT ANY NEGOTIATED SOLUTION BUT SEES NO WAY OUT OTHER THAN A NEGOTIATED ONE. HE URGED ASAD TO PRESS THE ELF TO AGREE TO NEGOTIATIONS. ASAD REPLIED THAT THERE NEEDED TO BE SOME SORT OF FRAMEWORK FOR NEGOTIATIONS WHICH WOULD ENSURE ERITREA CAN HAVE ITS "PERSONALITY" (DIPLOMATICALLY, ECONOMICALLY) AND ENSURE ADDIS OF ITS INTERESTS SUCH AS PORTS AND ACCESS TO THE SEA.

3. THE SECRETARY SAID WE HAD NO PRECONCEIVED IDEAS ON WHAT AN OUTCOME SHOULD BE AND ASKED WHAT ASAD THOUGHT FOR SOME KIND OF FEDERAL FRAMEWORK AT LEAST AT THE BEGINNING. ASAD SAID HE THOUGHT PERHAPS A CONFEDERAL FRAMEWORK WOULD MAKE MORE SENSE. THE SECRETARY SAID THAT IN PRINCIPLE WE COULD ACCEPT EITHER ONE SINCE BOTH COULD PROVIDE FOR ERITREAN AUTONOMY IN THE CONTEXT OF A NEGOTIATED SOLUTION. HE AGAIN URGED ASAD TO USE SYRIA'S INFLUENCE WITH THE ERITREANS TO ACHIEVE A SETTLEMENT. HE TOLD ASAD WE WOULD STAY IN TOUCH ON EFFORTS TO ACHIEVE A NEGOTIATED SOLUTION AND PROMISED HIM A REPORT ON AMBASSADOR HUMEL'S TALKS WITH THE ETHIOPIAN GOV'T ON THIS SUBJECT. THIS MAY TAKE ABOUT A WEEK. ASAD SAID HE WOULD APPRECIATE THIS REPORT.
KISSINGER

SECRET

NNN

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